

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 00722 131140Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /060 W
-----005677 131215Z /17
R 130933Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 343

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, RP
SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS

REF: MANILA 20307

1. IN SPEECH BEFORE MANILA ROTARY CLUB JANUARY 12, SOLICITOR GENERAL ESTELITO MENDOZA OUTLINED GUIDELINES FOR LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS WHICH PRESIDENT MARCOS HAS PROMISED WILL TAKE PLACE THIS YEAR. MENDOZA SAID FINAL DRAFT OF THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE PREPARED BY HIS BATASANG BAYAN COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS WAS SUBMITTED TO PRESIDENT MARCOS JANUARY 10. HE SAID ELECTION CODE WILL CALL FOR AN INTERIM BATASANG PAMBANSA (NATIONAL LEGISLATURE) COMPOSED OF 172 MEMBERS. 160 SEATS WILL BE FILLED BY AT-LARGE ELECTIONS IN THE 13 REGIONS. 12 ADDITIONAL MEMBERS WILL REPRESENT THREE SECTORS-- YOUTH, AGRICULTURE LABOR, AND INDUSTRIAL LABOR. CAMPAIGN PERIOD WILL BE LIMITED TO 30 DAYS. CAMPAIGN EXPENSES FOR EACH CANDIDATE WILL BE LIMITED TO PS60,000, WHICH MENDOZA

SAID WOULD BE EQUIVALENT OF ONE YEAR'S SALARY FOR THE NEW LEGISLATORS.

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2. MENDOZA DID NOT SAY WHEN THE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD. HOWEVER, PRESIDENT MARCOS TOLD THE AMBASSADOR JANUARY 13 THAT SOME OF HIS ADVISORS FAVOR MARCH/APRIL WHILE OTHERS WOULD PREFER OCTOBER/NOVEMBER. MARCOS INDICATED THAT A FINAL DECISION ON THE DATE HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE.

3. IF USUAL PROCEDURE IS FOLLOWED, PRESIDENT MARCOS
WILL CALL SPECIAL SESSION OF THE BATASANG BAYAN
(LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY BODY) TO GIVE RITUAL APPROVAL TO
FINAL DRAFT OF ELECTION CODE. THE PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED
THAT "OPEN HEARING" ON THE CODE IS SCHEDULED FOR
JANUARY 16.
NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, ELECTIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780168/aaaacfdb.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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